

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 HONG K 01609 130502Z

12

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-12 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SCI-01 SS-20 NSC-04 /063 W

----- 010946

R 130425Z FEB 74

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9558

INFO USLO PEKING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HONG KONG 1609

FOR CU/EA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CH

SUBJ: MORE, SHARPER CRITICISM OF WESTERN MUSIC LOVERS

1. PEOPLE'S DAILY FEBRUARY 8 DECLARED THAT THE CRITICISM OF REVISIONIST VIEWS ON BOURGEOIS CLASSICAL MUSIC IS DEEPENING AND SHARPENING ALONG WITH THE ATTACK ON CONFUCIUS AND LIN PIAO. AN ARTICLE BY CHU LAN, PRESUMABLY THE SAME PERSON WHO AUTHORED THE DEFENSE OF REVOLUTIONARY OPERAS IN THE JANUARY ISSUE OF RED FLAG, TOOK TO TASK THE IMPRESSIONIST AND MODERN SCHOOLS OF WESTERN MUSIC, ASKING ARCHLY WHETHER SOME DID NOT CARRY SUCH TITLES AS "PINES," "FOUNTAINS," AND "MOONLIGHT." THE ARTICLE WENT ON TO STAB AT THOSE WHO "BABBLE ABOUT SUCH ABSTRACT CONCEPTS OF MUSIC AS 'CHANGES AND CONTRASTS OF MOODS, HEALTHINESS AND BRIGHTNESS,' TO REPLACE CONCRETE CLASS ANALYSIS AND THEREBY "HOODWINK AND CHEAT" THE MASSES. "THIS IS THE FOCAL POINT IN THE CONTROVERSY."

2. CHU LAN ADDS THAT "THE APPEARANCE OF THE REVISIONIST VIEWPOINT THAT RULES OUT THE CLASS NATURE OF MUSIC IS NOT AN ISOLATED, INDIVIDUAL, AND ACCIDENTAL PHENOMENON; RATHER, IT IS A CONCENTRATED MANIFESTATION OF THE TENDENCY OF WORSHIPPING FOREIGN THINGS AND RESTORING THE OLD, WHICH EXISTS IN SOCIETY AND MUSIC CIRCLES AT PRESENT." THIS MUST BE THOROUGHLY EXPOSED AND CRITICIZED.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 HONG K 01609 130502Z

3. IT APPEARS THAT CHU LAN, WHOEVER THAT MAY BE, IS SPECIFICALLY ATTACKING ONE CHEN HSING OF THE CHINESE PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA. CHEN, IN AN ARTICLE IN PEOPLE'S DAILY SEPTEMBER 19, 1973 WARMLY PRAISING THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA'S CONCERTS IN PEKING, COMMENTED THAT THE PERFORMANCE OF RESPHIGI'S SYMPHONIC POEM "PINES OF ROME" WAS "BRILLIANT IN VARIATIONS OF COLOR AND TONE." CHEN HSING'S ARTICLE, WHICH MADE NO ATTEMPT AT "CLASS ANALYSIS" OF THE PHILADELPHIA'S PROGRAM, WAS REPRINTED IN CHINA RECONSTRUCTS (NO. 12) IN DECEMBER 1973.

4. COMMENT. THIS CONTINUING, CHARPENING ATTACK THREATENS TO GO BEYOND A PASSING WARNING TO THOSE CHINESE INVOLVED IN CULTURAL AND OTHER EXCHANGES; THEY LOOK TO BE IN FOR SERIOUS STRUGGLE SESSIONS. IT DOES NOT AUGUR WELL FOR FUTURE EXCHANGES. WE NOTE THAT THE QUESTION OF CLASS CONTENT IN GRAPHIC AND DIDACTIC MATERIAL HAS ALREADY BEEN RAISED IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHINESE ARCHEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION SCHEDULED FOR CANADA AND THE US.  
ALLEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MUSIC, PUBLIC ATTITUDES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 FEB 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974HONGK01609  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** HONG KONG  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740236/aaaabhwe.tel  
**Line Count:** 80  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION CU  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 MAY 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <06 JUN 2002 by morefirh>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MORE, SHARPER CRITICISM OF WESTERN MUSIC LOVERS  
**TAGS:** PINT, CH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005